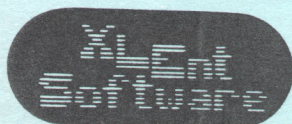


The Complete Atari Program Lister and  
Graphics Dumper

# MEGAFONTII+

© 1984

By Randy Dellinger  
and Richard Rognlie



P.O. Box 5228  
Springfield, Virginia 22150  
(703) 644-8881

\$24<sup>95</sup>



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                            | Page       |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Overview.....              | 1          |
| Boot Procedure.....        | 3          |
| Main Menu.....             | 4          |
| Hints.....                 | 4          |
| Convert Character Set..... | 5          |
| Special File Lister.....   | 6          |
| Graphics 7+/8 Dumper.....  | 9          |
| Replacement Policy.....    | 10         |
| Acknowledgements.....      | 10         |
| Appendix A.....            | 12         |
| Appendix B.....            | 13         |
| Appendix C.....            | 13         |
| XLNT Staff.....            | Back Cover |



## **MegaFont 11+**

**The Complete Lister, Graphics Dumper and Font Uploader**

**By Randy Dellinger and Richard Konglie  
Copyright (c) 1984**

Congratulations on your purchase of MegaFont 11+. MegaFont 11+ is probably one of the most useful programs you will own. Now you can print text files on your printer using redefined character sets, list out programs with special or inverse characters and last but not least, dump out Graphic 7+ and 8 screens.

MegaFont 11+ is a significantly improved version of the much praised MegaFont and MegaFont 11. Xlent Software is very pleased that we have been able to improve MegaFont 11. While Richard Rognlie worked hard at translating MegaFont to PASCAL so that versions of MegaFont will be available on other computers, including MS-DOS based machines, Randy spent months trying to add features plus increase the speed of the Atari version. Our staff sent out dozens of letters to printer manufacturers to try to learn every detail of their products. The result of our effort can now be enjoyed as one of the most sophisticated programs ever developed for the Atari, MegaFont 11+.

Owners of Epson & compatible printers will notice that there are now four sizes for screen dumps. The speed of all dumps except the full page size have been drastically improved. Epson printer owners now have the option of using bold print (if that option is available on their printer). The code has been changed to allow printouts by other compatible printers such as the Panasonic KX P1090.



Some of the new low cost printers have been designed for light duty. MegaFont 11+ now allows you to pause the printer and restart it to prevent the print head from overheating.

The left margin can now be adjusted to allow you to use your pictures as letterheads or logos. The fonts on the disk are now nine sector fonts instead of 17 sector fonts. This allowed us to add more fonts on the same disk space. If you have a modified Prowriter 8510AP (with the extra memory chip), an Epson FX-80 or a Panasonic KX-P1092, Richard wrote some code to allow you to upload a font into your printer. The FX-80 will not allow a font to have two adjacent pins fire, therefore the uploaded fonts will not look exactly like the fonts using the Special Lister. NOTE If you would like to order a memory chip for your Prowriter or our Chip Loader Kit, see Appendix C.

One of the most significant improvements of MegaFont 11+ is the Fast Print option. Randy wrote this feature to speed up the time it takes to list out programs. The printer's standard font is used unless a control or graphics character is encountered. The printer will then slow down to print the special characters and then resume normal speed for normal characters.

The new Font Splicer (also by Randy) will allow the user to combine two fonts together. Previous versions of MegaFont duplicated upper and lower case letters and numbers in inverse. MegaFont 11+ now allows the user to select one font for the first 128 ASCII values and a second font for the second 128. Detailed instructions guide the user through this feature under option 1.



## Boot Procedure

Turn off everything. Remove any cartridges from your computer. Now turn on the interface, (if you have one), disk drive, and printer. If you have an Atari 800XL hold down the OPTION button while booting.

The program will begin by asking you what type of printer you are using. Answer the prompt to select your printer. If you do not see your printer on the list, try the Epson option. Most new printers use Epson escape codes.

If the program does not run, double check everything and try again.





## **Main Menu**

The main menu provides you with five options.

OPTION 1 allows you to convert a character set from the Atari resident character set to a printer font. You may use any character set editor to create your fonts. The new Font Splicer option is found under this option.

OPTION 2 lets you print a file using the special lister. You may list out most Atari (TM) DOS Compatible files such as Word Processing or BASIC programs in listed format. The user now has an option to upload the font to certain printers or to select the Fast Print option.

OPTION 3 dumps a graphics screen. (Screens created with Micro Painter, Graphics Master, Koalapad\*, Touch Tablet\* or graphics created by custom programs).

OPTION 4 is a mini-DOS .

OPTION 5 exits to the printer selection screen.

\*See Appendix B.

## **HINTS**

If at any time you want to exit a part of MegaFont ][+ or have problems, press ESC and you will be back at the main menu.

When you are asked for a filename, you can get a directory of the disk by pressing RETURN. MegaFont ][+ will go to the mini-DOS menu where you can select 'D' for directory.



## **OPTION 1: CONVERT CHARACTER SET**

**OPTION 1 - Convert a character set.** You will be asked for the file in which the original character set is stored. This is the character set that you have created using a character set editor.

The program will then begin to convert the character set font into a format suitable for your printer. Don't worry when the screen goes blank, this speeds the process of converting the character set. The screen will return in about 90 seconds.

When the conversion is finished, the program will then prompt you for a filename where you want to store the newly created character set. Adding a filename extension of .EPS, .PRO, or .NEC will help you remember which printer the character set is for.

**OPTION 2 - Combine a character set.** Font Splicer allows you to combine converted character sets. First you will be prompted for the names of the character sets and whether the characters should be inverse or normal. Then the prompt is for a filename to store the combined character set. The combined character set uses 17 sectors of disk space.

**NOTE:** Epson character sets will not be compatible with Prowriter or NEC character sets.

**NOTE:** There are programs available in the public domain for altering the Atari character set. A good one is "Create-A-Font" by Vince Erceg which was published in A.N.A.L.O.G., February 1984. Several commercial programs are also available.



## **OPTION 2: SPECIAL FILE LISTER**

A menu displaying the options for listing files and their default values will appear. To change an option value, type in the menu number.

1) **FONT:** This is the converted character set you would like to use from the ones you have created using Option 1 or one that is already on the disk.

2) **PRINT SIZE:** This is the size of the character you want to use. This controls the number of characters that are printed per inch.

3) **LINE SPACING:** This is the number of blank lines between printed lines. For example, line spacing of 1 is like single-spacing on a typewriter.

4) **PAGINATION:** This controls whether printing is continuous or formatted for single sheets. Choosing 'NO' means continuous printing.

5) **LEFT MARGIN:** Allows the user to change the left margin for creating Logos and Letterheads.

6) **RIGHT MARGIN:** Allows the user to set the right margin. This value will automatically change depending on the print size used.

7) **BOLDFACE:** This controls whether the printer double-strikes each character when printing. You may want to use boldface if your ribbon is light or for emphasis. Some printers will not print boldface graphics.



When you are satisfied with the options, type "P" to print, "D" to download or "F" for FAST PRINT.

"P" - You will now be prompted for the name of the file you wish to print. This is the file where you have stored your program listing or text.

"D" - The font will be loaded to your printer buffer. This works on Prowriter 8510AP with Chip, Epson FX-80 or Panasonic KX-P1092 printers only.

"F" - Fast Print will print your program files with the normal printer character set until it encounters special or control characters. This increases the speed of listings.

NOTE: To use this option with your word processing files, after creating your letter, print it to the disk. Then run MegaFont's Special Lister option using the file you have printed to the disk. Not all word processors have the capability to print to the disk.

ATARIWRITER: Delete all of the control characters at the top of the file. Insert carriage returns every 59 characters or less on EPSON or 64 characters with a Prowriter or NEC. Save the file to disk. If you use a feature of Atariwriter that creates a special character, it will be printed by MegaFont ][+.

BANK STREET WRITER: Bank Street Writer files are not compatible with MegaFont ][+. Bank Street Writer files may be printed using an uploaded font or the file can be loaded into Text Wizard or Atariwriter and edited to be compatible with MegaFont ][+. It is also possible to create a font that will work with Bank Street Writer. You will need to create a font that turns the block character to a



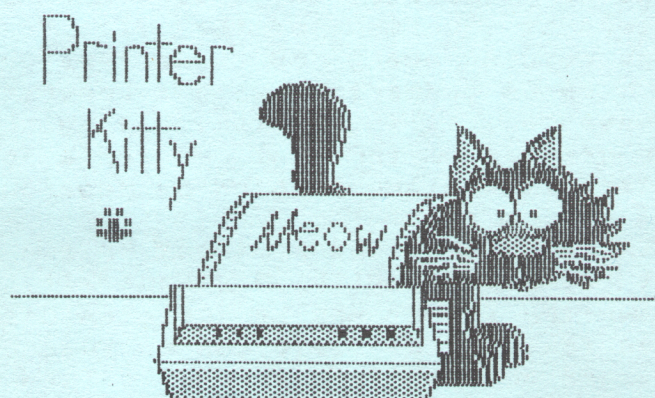
blank.

**LETTER PERFECT:** Incompatible because files are not ATARI DOS compatible. LJK has a utility which will make LETTER PERFECT files Atari DOS compatible. If you have a Prowriter 8510AP, an Epson FX-80 or the Panasonic KX-P1092, you can download the fonts directly to your printer.

**TEXT WIZARD (or WORD WIZARD):** Print file to the disk. (Instead of saving files to disk (OPTION S), use OPTION P and then D:FILENAME.)

**NOTE:** To get a BASIC program to list with all inverse and graphics characters, the program must be LISTed to the disk prior to using MegaFont 11+. List the program to your disk using LIST "D:FILENAME.EXT" from BASIC.

**KEYBOARD FEATURE:** MegaFont 11+ allows you to type directly to your printer. Select K: instead of D: when it asks for the filename. You may now type directly to your printer. Type CTRL 3 when you're done.





### **OPTION 3: GRAPHICS 7+/8 DUMPER**

This option allows you to dump Graphics 7+ and 8 screens that you have created to the printer. A menu displaying the options for dumping your picture file with default values will appear. To change an option value, type in the menu number.

1) Normal or Inverse. Inverse causes each point on the screen to reverse color, i.e. light becomes dark and vice versa.

2) Print Size. The full page picture prints sideways and is slightly larger than an 8-1/2 x 11 page. The Prowriter/NEC version has 3 picture sizes, the other printers 4 sizes. The right margin can be adjusted for eighth and quarter page size dumps.

3) Left Margin. Adjusts the left margin on eighth and quarter page size pictures which is useful for creating letterheads.

4) Boldface Print. (Not all printers have this capability). To get a darker picture, select 'Y'.

**NOTE:** If you are getting gaps in your picture, you can adjust the line spacing using the 'C' option. We have found 18 & 12 to be good numbers.

When you're satisfied with the options, select 'P' to print. There are some pictures on the MegaFont II+ disk you may want to try. Make sure your printer is on before loading the picture. Type in the filename and then RETURN. The picture will appear on the screen and then begin to print. Use 'P' or 'S' to pause and restart printing



## **XLENT SOFTWARE REPLACEMENT POLICY**

This package is warranted for 90 days from the date of purchase. If it is defective, please return it to us and we will replace it. To obtain a backup copy, please send \$5.00 and the serial number of your disk. The \$5.00 is to cover the cost of media and shipping. For those outside the U.S. and Canada, please include additional funds to cover postage.

**Problems Printing?:** If you do have problems, and we hope you don't, please send us a copy of your problem and an explanation of when it occurred. Please include information about your system along with the version and serial number of your program disk.

**Acknowledgements:** Many thanks to Jennifer Brabson for her artwork and inspiration. If you would like more of original electronic masterpieces (suitable for printing) we have 3 disks available.

Picture disk # 1 by J. Brabson & Mark Whiteside

Picture disk # 2 by J. Brabson

Picture disk # 3 by J. Brabson - Holiday themes

Individual disks are \$10. Order all 3 for \$20. Please add \$2.00 for shipping and handling.

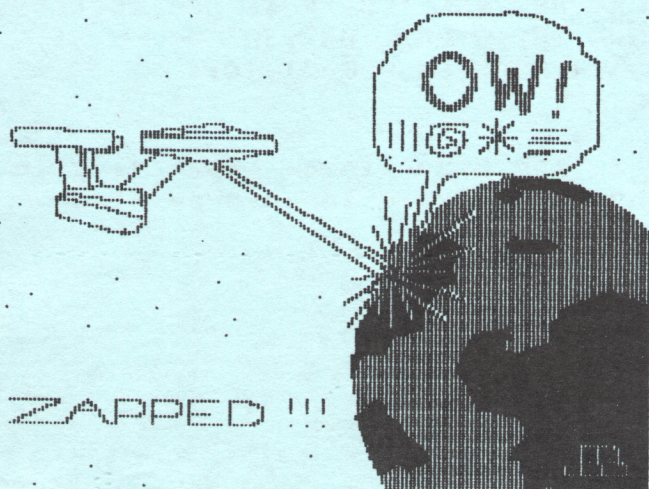
We welcome any written comments or suggestions that will help us provide you with the software you want.



This program was produced using copyrighted software products of Monarch Data Systems, Cochituate, MA 01778.

This documentation was printed using ATARIWRITER, MegaFont and a Prowriter with chip.

ATARI and ATARIWRITER are registered trademarks of Atari, Inc. Epson and Grafrax are trademarks of Epson America, Inc. Prowriter is distributed by Leading Edge Products Inc. NEC is a trademark of Nippon Electric Co., LTD. Text Wizard, Graphics Master and Micro Painter are trademarks of Datasoft Inc. Bank Street Writer is a trademark of BroderBund Software. Letter Perfect is a trademark of LJK Software. Panasonic is a trademark of Matsushita Corp.





## APPENDIX A

If you've written a BASIC program that creates a graphics 8 screen, the following code will let you save it to a disk file. This file can then be printed with MegaFont ][+'s Graphics Dumper.

GRAPHICS 24

20 REM CREATE SCREEN

30 REM THIS IS YOUR BASIC PROGRAM

.  
.  
.

8990 REM INSERT SAVE ROUTINE WHEN YOU WANT TO  
SAVE THE SCREEN

8995 REM THIS IS PROBABLY WHERE YOU HAVE A  
CONTINUOUS LOOP TO HOLD THE SCREEN FOR VIEWING

9000 GOSUB 32000

9010 END

31990 REM SCREEN SAVE ROUTINE

32000 OPEN #1,8,0,"D:FILENAME.EXT"

32010 POKE 850,11

32020 POKE 852,PEEK(88):POKE 853,PEEK(89)

32030 POKE 856,0:POKE 857,30

32040 X=USR(ADR("hhh\*LVd"),16)

32050 RETURN

Note that the underlined characters in line  
32040 should be typed in inverse video.



## **APPENDIX B**

### **Koalapad/Atari Artist Instructions**

While in the Micro Illustrator or Atari Artist program and you're ready to save a picture, press [INSERT] while the picture is displayed (not the icon menu). The picture will then be saved to your disk in a file named PICTURE. This filename will not appear on your Micro Illustrator directory. This file is compatible with MegaFont ][+. This information appeared in the April 1984 issue of ANTIC magazine.

If you get tired of having a lot of disks with files named PICTURE, we have a converter program available. This program will convert Koalapad/Touch Tablet compressed files to standard files and vice versa. This disk is only \$10.00 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling. If you own a Koalapad, We highly recommend you purchase our converter disk.

If you own an 800XL, you will need to use the Translator when saving Koalapad pictures in the MegaFont ][+ format.

## **APPENDIX C**

**For Prowriter owners only...**

You can regain the speed of your Prowriter when listing text files with the addition of a chip to your printer. This chip adds more memory to your Prowriter and gives you the capability to download character sets from MegaFont ][+ into your Prowriter. The Chip Kit includes the memory chip, installation instructions, download program and more fonts. Only \$19.95 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling. Memory chip only for \$15.00.



*Presenting...*  
The XLent Staff



(not pictured: Jennifer Brabson)